

The St. Alban's News

"We are a God-centered, multicultural, English speaking community within the Nippon Seikokai, striving to show Christ to others by reflecting God's love through service."

The Monthly Newsletter of St. Alban's Anglican Church, Tokyo

May 2000

May 28

Spring BBQ,

after 10am
Service,

bring a Dessert!*



Rector's letter

Copies of Fr. Bob's letter of May 10 are available at the back of the church. If you didn't get your copy through the post, please check that the church office has your correct address.

Stewardship

Work on the **church building** - new roof and gutters, insulated windows, ceiling insulation and repainting outside walls - is nearing completion. The target date is 15 June.

The next major project is the improvement of the **playground**. The surface will be dug and relaid in mid-July, when the Nursery School has finished using it. The new concrete must be cured for at least a month before the new rubber surface can be laid. That will be done in the autumn when Greg Copeland, our Sexton, returns from summer leave. The cost is high. Some funds have already been raised. But we shall be looking for more contributions or fund-raising efforts.

The **garden** needs to be kept tidy. If you can spare a little time to help with weeding or watering, please speak to Richard Jones (e-mail jones@ibbjapan.ne.jp, office tel 03-5211 1275), who is compiling a roster.



Looking Good!

Service

Following the Lenten series of presentations, several people volunteered to help with the Tokyo International Learning Community (TILC), Budo no Ie (House of Grapes), Tokyo English Lifeline (TELL) and homeless in Shinjuku and Shiba Koen. The Committee is following up with them, to work out what we might do.

Andrew and Clare Barrie, Juanita Heigham, Peter and Toni Martin, Rick and Merlyn Scott and Marti and Missi Mongiello (the head chef from the US base at Yokosuka and his wife) all helped make rice-cakes at the Franciscan Chapel Centre on 13 May. Thank you to them and to all volunteers for 20 May. Please let Richard Jones know if you can volunteer for any second or third Saturday of the month (4.30/5.00pm, for about one hour), so that he can make a roster.

There is still room for more volunteers. If you would like to know more, please speak to Richard Jones, Kathy or Bud Clatanoff, Sarah Yoshimatsu or Christie Demura.

Evangelism

Did you know that when a stranger visits, the first 10 minutes determine whether or not that person returns? Do you remember how you felt when you came to St. Alban's for the first time? Was it intimidating to walk into a group where you didn't know anyone? Did you need help figuring out which book to use or when to kneel or to stand up?

That 10 minutes begins on the steps to the Church or in the parking lot! **YOU** can be part of this very important ministry by becoming a Greeter to help the newcomers become comfortable and feel welcome in our Church home. We encourage visitors to sign our guest book or fill out a Visitor Pew Card in order to welcome them with a letter and a telephone call. There will be Newcomer's Classes and dinners. **Please join our ministry! Call or e-mail Laura Holmes 03-3446-4734 or holmesan@gol.com**

How's the newsletter? Do you like receiving it Via Email? Ideas? Contributions? See Bret Bret.wingert@motorola.com 03-3444-4784. If you did not receive this Electronically, send your current Email address to the church at stalbans@gol.com

Education

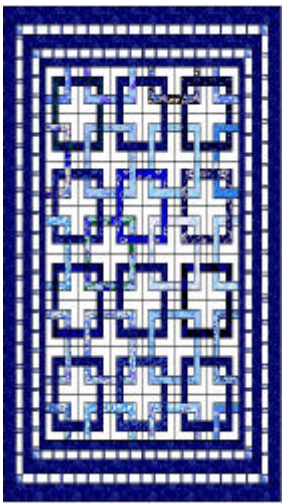
A 4-week course 'Prayer and Bible Study: A Hands-On Introduction' will be running after the 10am service on Sundays starting soon. Each meeting will last from 12-1pm (with coffee and snacks to keep people going before lunchtime!)

The course is designed for everyone: those familiar with Bible Study and personal prayer practice, and those seeking to learn more. The first two weeks will focus on Prayer, and the second two on Bible Study. We aim to cover different approaches to these two acts of worship, to provide a forum for people to share their experiences of them, and to provide material useful for personal exploration of prayer and Bible Study at home.

The Education Committee also hopes that this course will provide a springboard for the formation of home-groups for Bible Study later in the year. ALL WELCOME!

LAST DAY of Sunday School: May 28th

Smile: How do you frustrate an Anglican?
Hide the keys to his Mercedes in his Bible!



It is not too early to think about **the St. Alban's Auction in November**. The Auction needs goods and services on which to bid. Consider donating some time, a special service or something else. At left is a quilt being fashioned by St. Alban's parishioners for the auction. They need your help!

See Lee Pierce with any questions you have!
blspiere@iac.co.jp

Worship

During the first week in May St. Alban's had the wonderful opportunity to learn about healing and healing ministries from visiting priest Fr. Bill Beachy. His wise, candid, and faithful responses to our many questions emphasized God's deep desire for our total health and salvation... body, mind, and soul. He spoke about the importance of healing prayer in the life of the church and encouraged St. Alban's to pray about and study the accounts of healing in scripture as preparation for establishing our own healing ministry. Anyone interested in following a simple course of study and reflection on healing over the summer months please let Christine Demura know.

Upcoming Events at St. Alban's

June 4 Children's service – 10am

June 11- Workshop: The Harp and Healing, by Carol Sack following the 10:00 service

June 18th St. Mark's School Choir will sing at St. Andrew's - 10am Joint Service

June 25th - joint service with St. Andrew's at St. Alban's – reception following

July 13-14 Mt. Fuji Climb*

September 3 – registration Sunday/Ministry Fair

September 10 – 1st day of Sunday School

October – Harvest Festival and Talent night*

November 4 - St. Alban's Auction*

January 21, 2001 - Annual General meeting

February 3, 2001 - Spaghetti Opera*

Please see the St. Alban's web page for more events and other activities

* Brought to you by Pastoral Care

Every Week at St. Alban's

Sundays

8am Eucharist (Said)
10am Eucharist (Sung)

Wednesdays

7:15 Prayer Meeting Rector's Office

Thursdays

7:30pm Choir Practice

Other Resources

Prayer list: Call St. Alban's at 03-3431-8534

Tokyo English Life Line – 03-3968-4099 Provides emergency assistance in English, including counseling.

Web: <http://www.tell.gol.com/>

Vestry: People's warden, Richard Jones
jones@ibbjapan.ne.jp

Alcoholics Anonymous Tokyo - 03-3971-1471
<http://www.geocities.com/Tokyo/Ginza/6783/aaindex.html>

Al-Anon Tokyo – 3444-5678

On the Web:

St. Alban's: <http://www.saintalbans.gol.com/>

Anglican's Online: <http://anglicansonline.org/>